

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method of sending a package, comprising

~~printing an electronic stamp including a two-dimensional bar code encoding previously provided biometric information of the receiver and biographical information of the sender;~~

~~scanning a the two-dimensional bar code that is associated with the package, wherein the two-dimensional bar code is encoded with previously provided biometric information of an intended receiver;~~

decoding the two-dimensional bar code to obtain the receiver's previously provided biometric information; and

~~receiving conveying the receiver's current biometric information from the receiver and comparing the current biometric information to the previously provided biometric information; and~~

~~if the receiver's current biometric information is equivalent to the receiver's previously provided biometric information, providing the package and the biographical information of the sender to the receiver if the receiver's current biometric information is equivalent to the receiver's previously provided biometric information.~~

2. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~use~~ receiver's previously provided biometric information and the receiver's current biometric information include data related to ~~at least one of~~ the receiver's fingerprint, the receiver's handprint, the receiver's voice print, the receiver's facial features, and the receiver's signature.

3. (cancelled).

4. (cancelled).

5. (cancelled).

6. (cancelled).

7. (currently amended) The method of claim 6 2 wherein ~~conveying~~ receiving the receiver's current biometric information is accomplished by:

affixing the receiver's signature to a signature bar code; and

scanning the signature bar code.

8. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the two-dimensional bar code utilizes the PDF 417 symbology.

9. (currently amended) An apparatus for delivering goods, comprising:

a notifier for notifying a user electronically that a package has arrived at a predetermined location;

a scanner for scanning a two-dimensional bar code ~~provided by a user at the predetermined location, wherein the two-dimensional bar code that is associated with the package, the two-dimensional bar code encoding~~ encodes previously provided biometric information relating to the user's identification;

a decoder for decoding the user's previously provided biometric information from the two-dimensional bar code;

a collector for collecting the user's current biometric information;

a comparator for comparing the user's current biometric information and the ~~user's~~ previously provided biometric information, the package being provided to the user when the user's current biometric information matches the previously provided biometric information, and

~~a provider for providing the package to the user if the user's current biometric information matches the user's previously provided biometric information.~~

10. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 9, further comprising:

a presenter for presenting the package for visual inspection by the user prior to providing the package to the user ~~by the provider~~.

11. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 10 9, wherein the notifier operates via at least one of a cell phone, a PDA, and a two-way pager.

12. (cancelled).

13. (cancelled).

14. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 10 9, wherein the user's previously provided biometric information and the user's current biometric information include data related to at least one of the user's fingerprint, the user's handprint, the user's voiceprint, the user's facial features, and the user's signature.

15. (cancelled).

16. (cancelled).

17. (cancelled).

18. (cancelled).

19. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 10 9, wherein the two-dimensional bar code utilizes the PDF 417 symbology.

20. (currently amended) A method of establishing a service for package delivery, comprising:

~~receiving a user providing to a service provider select biometric information, select contact information, select and recipient information, and select financial information in a secure fashion from a user;~~

~~insuring that the select financial information and the select biometric information are stored in a secure manner apart from the select contact information; and~~

~~encoding the select biometric information and the select recipient information so as to be capable of being printed in into a two-dimensional bar code, the two-dimensional bar code capable of being electronically transmitted to a recipient and decoded to recover at least the user's previously provided biometric information.~~

21. (currently amended) The method as in claim 20, further comprising:

~~the user ordering a package from a package provider and directing the provider to send the package to the service provider;~~

~~the package provider contacting the service provider to obtain the user's select contact information; receiving a request from a package provider to obtain the recipient information, wherein the request is in response to the user ordering a package;~~

providing the package provider with the previously stored recipient information;

~~the service provider notifying the user electronically that the package has arrived at a predetermined location that corresponds with the previously stored recipient information.~~

22. (currently amended) The method of claim 21, wherein the step of the user ordering a package is accomplished via the Internet.

23. (currently amended) The method of claim 21, wherein the ~~select~~ biometric information ~~include~~ includes data related to at least one of the user's facial features, the user's voiceprint, the user's fingerprint, the user's signature, and the user's handprint.

24. (cancelled).

25. (cancelled).

26. (cancelled).

27. (cancelled).

28. (new) The method of claim 1, wherein the two-dimensional bar code associated with the package is electronically transmitted to the receiver and scanning the two-dimensional bar code further comprises:

scanning a printed copy of the electronically transmitted two-dimensional bar code.

29. (new) The method of claim 1, wherein the two-dimensional bar code is applied to the package.

30. (new) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

scanning a second two-dimensional bar code that has been associated with the package, wherein the second two-dimensional bar code is a digital stamp applied to the package and encoded with sender information.

31. (new) The method of claim 30, wherein the sender information includes at least one of a credit card account number, sender biometric data, destination address, sender address, sender name, digital signature, and meter information.

32. (new) The method of claim 1, wherein the two-dimensional bar code is scanned using a portable scanner.

33. (new) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the scanner is a portable scanner.

34. (new) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the two-dimensional bar code is electronically

transmitted to the user, and the scanner is operable for scanning a printed copy of the two dimensional bar code.

35. (new) The apparatus of claim 9, further comprising a provider for providing the package to the user.

36. (new) The method of claim 20, further comprising:

transmitting an electronic copy of the two-dimensional bar code to the user.

37. (new) The method of claim 20, wherein receiving data from the user includes receiving data via the Internet.